

ATTACHMENT - Remarks

By this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended for clarity and to better define the invention. Other dependent claims have also been canceled or amended consistent with the changes to independent claim 1 and/or for clarity; and a new claims 11-12 have been added. It is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance for the following reasons.

In the **Specification** section of the outstanding Office Action, the arrangement of the specification sections and the contents thereof were noted by the examiner. As stated in 37 CFR 1.77(b), these sections "should" be included in the noted order. As the examiner has made no specific objection to the present specification, and as the present specification does include the noted sections as appropriate and in the noted order, the present specification is in complete compliance with 37 CFR 1.77.

In the **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102** section, independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-10 were all rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by the O'Leary patent. However, for the following reasons, it is submitted that amended claim 1 and dependent claims 3-6 and 8-12 are all allowable over this reference.

In amended independent claim 1, it is now particularly recited that each elongate air channel includes a narrowest portion, in which the at least a part of the heating resistance is located for effecting heat transfer by convection from each heating resistance to the blast air. The placement of the heating resistance at this location achieves a most efficient convective heat transfer; and because no meaningful radiate

heating is employed, thereafter a broadening portion of the air channel is provided (with the noted elements thereof).

The O'Leary patent discloses in figure 4 an air plenum 180 of diverging shape, with heating elements 40 located in an upper portion and air blast holes 35 in an orifice plate (bottom part) 30. As this plenum has a diverging shape, the narrowest portion thereof is located at the level of the gas amplifier 50; so that the heating elements 40 are located at a lower and wider (and widening) portion of the plenum which is not the narrowest portion.

Therefore, as the O'Leary patent does not have the heating element located as claimed in independent claim 1, and as such the location of the heating element at the narrowest portion is not obvious therefrom, independent claim 1 is allowable over the O'Leary patent. For these same reasons, it is submitted that dependent claims 3-6 and 8-12 are likewise allowable.

It will be noted that new dependent claims 11 and 12 further claim that the narrowest portion of the elongated air channel has a "non-diverging cross section" (claim 11) and a constant cross section (claim 12) in an air flow direction as shown in the figures and consistent with the "narrowest portion" limitation. Such added limitations further help differentiate claims 11-12 from the plenum of the O'Leary patent, so dependent claims 11-12 are additionally allowable for this reason.

In the **Double Patenting** section, claims 1-10 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over USP 6,470,711 (the same inventor's prior patent). However, as now defined in amended independent claim 1, the present invention is significantly different from the invention of USP 6,470,711. In

particular, USP 6,470,711 does not disclose nor make obvious heating elements in a narrowest portion, as the heating elements 15 are located in a broadened portion as shown. Therefore, it is submitted that the double patenting rejection should now be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is solicited.